



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
John Hoeven  
*Governor*

## **Military Initiatives**

- SB 2146 Veterans Bonus and HB 1017 Adjutant General Budget (Still in committee.)
  - ✓ \$1,000,000 in additional funds for tuition program. Doubles current funding. Will ensure that Guard members can generally receive up to 100% tuition at state colleges. Recruiting and retention incentive and create a smarter stronger National Guard.
  - ✓ \$5,000,000 to fund the Veterans' Bonus Program (**SB 2146**) which pays \$100 per month overseas and \$50 per month stateside (not to exceed \$1,800 and \$900 respectively). \$2,500 for heirs of those who died in service or received a purple heart. Recognizes the personal and financial sacrifice of our resident veterans of all services-Active, Reserve and National Guard
- HB 1271 tuition waiver for dependents
  - ✓ Adds step-child to definition of dependent for tuition and fee waiver for KIA and 100% disabled veteran dependents
- HB 1527 licensure waiver for mobilized soldiers
  - ✓ Allows boards and agencies to waive licensure requirements for mobilized soldiers-retroactive to fix past problems-emergency clause
- SB 2076 resident tuition rates
  - ✓ Provides in-state tuition rates for all ND Guard members regardless state of residence (MN resident who is a ND guard members get ND in-state tuition rates)
- SB 2336 vote by fax or email
  - ✓ Allows Servicemembers to vote by fax or email with sufficient safeguards to protect the integrity of the process. Ensures that our Servicemembers mobilized in remote areas of the world can still vote.
- SB 2362 state tax exemption for mobilized Servicemembers
  - ✓ Clarifies that you may "volunteer" for a mobilization and still get the exemption from state tax. Current exemption applies to all mobilization income including stateside (fed is only in combat zone).
- HB 1069 PERS retirement
  - ✓ Ensures that mobilized state and political subdivision employees will get their appropriate retirement credit in accordance with USERRA (Uniformed Service members Reemployment Rights Act). Upon their proper return to employment. Based on an AG opinion we had been advising soldiers that they must pay the 4% normally contributed by the agency even though had they been continuously employed the state would have paid the 4%. Retroactive to the 1<sup>st</sup> date of USERRA-OCT 1992.

April 18, 2005